

efforts to increase community awareness, improve the quality of life, and open doors for Hispanics. The Bruno Valdez Arts and Entertainment Award is presented to a Hispanic artist who has promoted Hispanic culture through professional and personal activity. The award this year is being given to Mr. Eddie Soto. The Veterans Award is given to a member of the Hispanic community who has honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Mr. Tom Torres is being honored with the award this year. Mr. Armando J. Singer will be given the Maria DeLeary Award. This year the Hispanic community pays tribute to those individuals who are not of Hispanic descent, but play a major role in improving life for Hispanics in Genese County. This year the recipients are Mrs. Sue Burnash Quintanilla, and Mrs. Lois Laughlin. The Migrant Farm Worker Award recipients, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Nelson, are being recognized for their selfless service to the migrant workers.

To honor those of the Hispanic community just starting to pursue their life goals, the Pedro Mata, Jr. Scholarship Award will be given to Mr. Carlos Lambaria. The purpose of this award is to foster a commitment to community service and encourage continued education.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the winners of these awards. The recipients are to be commended for their dedication, commitment, and leadership to the Hispanic community of Flint and Genesee County.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY—SHARE NEW JERSEY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 1995*

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important benchmark. It is the 10th anniversary of the founding of SHARE New Jersey. SHARE New Jersey is a self-help food distribution system. It was established to bring people of diverse backgrounds together to eliminate hunger in New Jersey, help build stronger communities, and develop leaders.

The program was founded as a means of eliminating hunger and providing participants with the opportunity to assist one another in local communities. Realizing that the self-help concept would make a difference in the quality of life of many people, SHARE membership was open to all who were willing to pay a small fee of \$12 to \$14 for food and commit to 2 hours of volunteer service.

The first SHARE New Jersey food distribution was held in September 1985 in Newark; 1,900 households participated in the distribution of over 75,000 pounds of food. Since 1985, 1,121,477 households have received wholesome food and 2,242,954 community service hours have been provided. In just 10 years, 33,644,310 pounds of food has been distributed by SHARE New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations and best wishes to the people of SHARE New Jersey who have helped to eliminate hunger and create a spirit of partnership.

#### MEDICARE PATIENTS DESERVE FULL CHOICE OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 1995*

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Congress is about to embark on major reforms of the Medicare Program—ostensibly to ensure Medicare patients more choice. But I believe that the reforms we will be considering will offer patients less choice, not more, unless we take action to ensure that their choices are protected.

Many of the so-called reform plans include efforts to increase the use of managed care for Medicare patients. I believe that these plans must include safeguards to protect Medicare patients' ability to choose the person who provides them health care services. For this reason, today I am introducing legislation to guarantee older Americans a point-of-service option under Medicare managed care plans.

The Medicare Patient Choice Act provides true choice by allowing Medicare patients to go outside of a network when they need services. In addition, the bill would establish safeguards under managed care arrangements to ensure that patients are treated fairly and that they have recourse if they are dissatisfied with the care they receive. In addition, the bill prohibits the use of financial incentive plans which discourage providers to refer patients for specialty or other types of health care services.

Further, this legislation ensures that patients get what they pay for under managed care arrangements by requiring plans to return to patients at least 85 percent of the aggregate premiums received in health care items, services, and treatment. Finally, the legislation would apply its requirements to the so-called Medicare Select plans.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this legislation provides essential protections for Medicare patients and I hope that many of my colleagues who are concerned about the quality of health care provided to senior citizens will sign on as cosponsors. A summary of the legislation follows:

#### SUMMARY OF THE MEDICARE PATIENT CHOICE ACT INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN SHERROD BROWN

The Medicare Patient Choice Act would:

Require all Medicare managed care organizations (MCO) as a condition of participating in Medicare to offer enrollees a point-of-service option.

Require MCOs to meet a loss-ratio (aggregate benefits to premiums) of 85 percent.

Require MCOs to issue an annual report to members providing quality, access to services, enrollee's rights to benefits and out-of-area coverage.

Assure beneficiaries timely access to services, continuity of care and the option to receive care out-of-the network.

Establish grievance and appeals processes for both patients and providers if they have a dispute with the MCO.

Prohibit MCOs from discriminating against certain providers based solely on their license or certification as provided under state law.

Ensure that Medicare network health plans include a sufficient number, mix and

distribution of health professionals to meet the needs of their enrolled patients.

Apply conditions of the Medicare Patient Choice Act to all Medicare Select plans.

Apply all requirements of physician incentive plans under current law to all providers participating in Medicare managed care plans.

#### TRIBUTE TO REV. WARDELL NEWSOME, SR.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 1995*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Wardell Newsome, Sr., member of the New Galilee M.B. Church under the pastorage of Rev. Charlie Murray in Chicago, IL.

For decades Reverend Newsome has exemplified the dedication and commitment required to better our communities and the citizens who reside there. His work as both a social and a spiritual religious leader began at the early age of 13 when he was baptized at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Marvell, Arkansas. Later, when he came to Chicago, he accepted his call into the ministry and joined the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church under the pastorage of Rev. O.C. Nicks. Reverend Newsome brought to the ministry and to the people of Chicago a compassion and dedication to service, empowerment, and spiritual awareness that still benefits us greatly to this day.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday Rev. Wardell Newsome, Sr. will be honored for the decades of service he has given to his ministries and to his community. Today, I would like to make sure that all he has contributed to this country and our communities is recognized, appreciated, and honored on the floor of this House. I am honored to enter these words of commendation into the RECORD.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIE GRACE CAMPBELL

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 1995*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a good friend and a dedicated fighter for women's rights on the occasion of her 80th birthday. As someone who has reached the age of 50, I can appreciate what it means to reach 80. But what truly amazes me is what Willie has accomplished in those 80 years. Let me relate just a few of those accomplishments.

Willie has played a vital role in the development of the League of Women Voters. She rose to the national board of the league in 1959. From this position she directed the league's inner-city voter registration drive, and chaired the league's education fund. Four years after her term as a boardmember, she founded and became the first chair of the League of Women Voters' Department of Litigation.

Willie's dedication to public service has also led her to achieve a great deal in other forums. She has fought for women's rights